

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/679,629

Applicant(s)

STOLLER, JAMES E.

Examiner

Sing P. Chan

Art Unit

1734

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 12-17.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 6/26/06.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mathew R. P. Perrone on June 26, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

The Abstract has been changed to the following:

A method of preventing crown hydration of a golf green by providing a polyethylene tube, stretching the tube to form a stretched tube, cutting the tube in a spiral fashion to form a first sheet with force striations at an acute angle to an edge of the sheet, forming a second sheet in a similar manner as the first sheet with a force striations at an acute angle, securing a surface of the first sheet to a surface of the second sheet with the force striations of the first sheet at a relative angle to the force striation of the second sheet to form a layered sheets, providing a plurality of layered sheets, securing the edges of the layered sheets to form a golf green cover, and applying a holding means through a reinforced section to hold the cover in place.

In claim 12, line 17, "layered sheet" has been changed to "layered sheets," line 18, "sheets" has been inserted between "layered" and "including," line 22, "of" has been inserted between "number" and "time."

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 12-17 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claims recite a method of preventing crown hydration of golf green. The method includes providing a polyethylene tube, stretching the tube to form a stretched tube, cutting the tube in a spiral fashion to form a first sheet with force striations at an acute angle to an edge of the sheet, forming a second sheet in a similar manner as the first sheet with a force striations at an acute angle, securing a surface of the first sheet to a surface of the second sheet with the force striations of the first sheet at a relative angle to the force striation of the second sheet to form a layered sheets, providing a plurality of layered sheets, securing the edges of the layered sheets to form a golf green cover, and applying a holding means through a reinforced section to hold the cover in place. Ohira et al (JP 57-200718) discloses a method of making an outer casing for control cable. The method includes providing a thermoplastic tube, stretching the tube in a machine direction in a first and second stretching tank, spirally cut the tube to form an edge at a prescribed angle with a cross section of the tube so that the spiral slit is formed to obtain the desired outer casing. (English Abstract of JP 57-200718) Ohira et al is silent as to the remaining steps such as cutting the tube in a spiral fashion to form a first sheet with force striations at an acute angle to an edge of the sheet, forming a second sheet in a similar manner as the first sheet with a force striations at an acute angle, securing a surface of the first sheet to a surface of the second sheet with the force striations of the

first sheet at a relative angle to the force striation of the second sheet to form a layered sheets, providing a plurality of layered sheets, securing the edges of the layered sheets to form a golf green cover, and applying a holding means through a reinforced section to hold the cover in place. A search of the prior art of record did not disclose reference or references in combination with recited features.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sing P. Chan whose telephone number is 571-272-1225. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:30AM-11:00AM and 12:00PM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher A. Fiorilla can be reached on 571-272-1187. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1734

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Chan Sing P

SPC

George Koch
GEORGE KOCH
PRIMARY EXAMINER